
NEWS RELEASE

Judd Gregg

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SENATORS GREGG AND SUNUNU ATTEND RIBBON-CUTTING FOR NH NATIONAL GUARD FLIGHT SIMULATOR AT PEASE

PORTSMOUTH, N.H. -- U.S. Senators Judd Gregg (R-NH) and John Sununu (R-NH) were on hand today for the ceremonial unveiling of the innovative New Hampshire Air National Guard flight simulator hanger at Pease. The 157th Flight Simulator/CATS Training Facility is a newly constructed building housing a state-of-the-art KC-135R simulator with full-motion capability, a technologically advanced feature the previous simulator did not have, that will allow for training on emergency flight procedures preventing wear and tear on actual aircraft. Senators Gregg and Sununu were joined by New Hampshire Adjutant General John Blair as well as other New Hampshire National Guard personnel.

Senator Gregg, who was able to secure \$250,000 in Fiscal Year 2001 for the design of the facility, and \$2.1 million in FY02 for its construction as a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee, stated, "This new facility is a tremendous resource for the New Hampshire Air National Guard personnel. Currently, Air National Guard personnel have to travel hours away from the Seacoast to undergo critical flight and small arms training, which can now be done right at Pease. The more realistic an environment that can be created during training exercises, the better able our pilots will be to respond in unusual or adverse situations. This training will greatly enhance their capabilities and keep them safer under stressful circumstances."

Senator Sununu stated, "The flight simulator will allow Air National Guard personnel to train directly at the Pease facility in a realistic flight environment. Such an opportunity will serve to further enhance their ability to respond to various flight scenarios on future KC-135 missions."

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